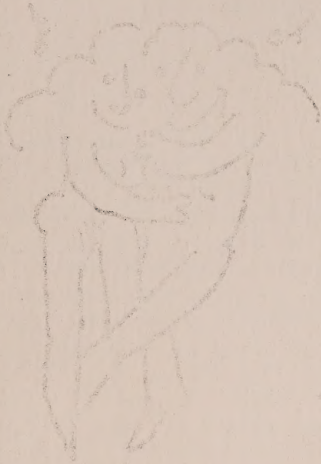
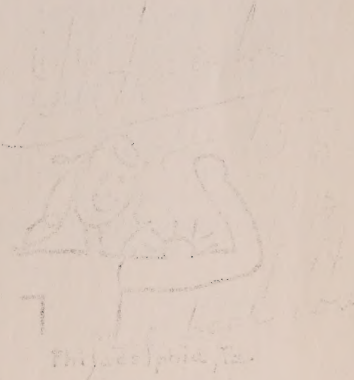


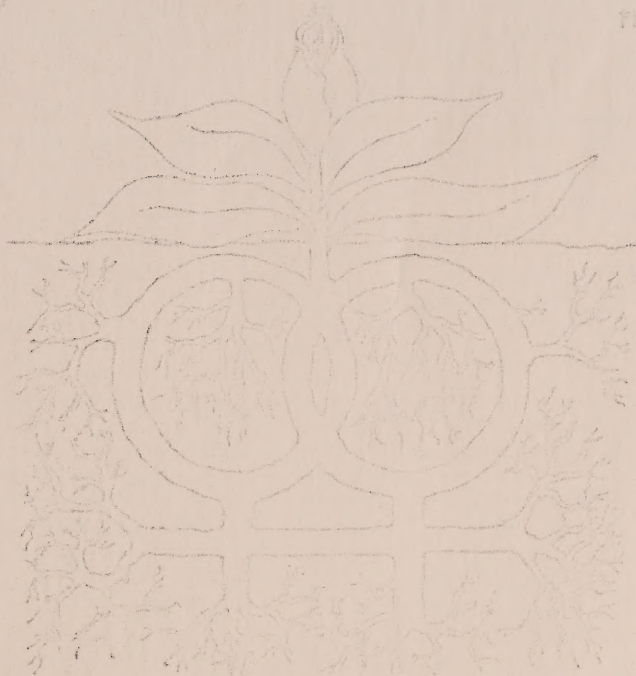
Volume I, Issue 3 March, 1978



Berkeley, Ca.



Philadelphia, Pa.



St. Albans, Vt.



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then how about sending in a dollar every time you get one. We still will state that Lesbian Connection is free to all lesbians, and we don't expect anyone to write to us with an explanation of why they're broke. We won't cut any individual off our mailing list because she didn't send money, but if most of you don't send us the \$8 we're asking (more if you can, less if you can't) then everyone may be cut off the mailing list because LC could die.

Hopefully with more of you writing us your thoughts and ideas, and many more of you sending some sort of financial help, this communication network and forum we've tried to establish through LC will continue to grow for a long time to come....As always, we give you this issue with Love. ---Beth, Goldi, Kathy, Margy, Sue, Patty, Carol, Jill, Laura, Julie J., Dena, Donna, Margaret, Julie L.

P.S. Make all checks payable to Ambitious Amazons. Copy Deadline for next issue is March 15: articles; March 25: announcements, ads, etc. Articles should be no longer than 2 pages single-spaced. If possible, please type articles, and be sure to include a title and how you want it signed. MOVING? Tell us immediately! It costs a quarter everytime someone moves and doesn't tell us. The Post Office will not forward LC, just throw it out or read it. Also, include your old address when you move--when someone writes and says "Hi. I've moved. My new address is..." we have to search through 5000 cards looking for her old address. There are no back issues of LC available at this time. Finally, will all groups and contact dykes who received letters from us in January requesting info for our mailing list and our next directory of lesbian groups please send the information back as soon as possible.

This issue's cover is a collage of doodles and drawings sent in by readers over the last few months. Anyone with ideas for future covers please let us know.

PARTHENOGENESIS: CONTROLLING REPRODUCTION

This is an open letter: an open plea. I need the help of all of you who are interested in, or are doing research on, or who know something about, PARTHENOGENESIS.

You might have heard about it in an article by Laurel, "Radical Reproduction: X Without Y," in volume 2, issue 3 of Amazon Quarterly, or the article by Joanne Steele in Majority Report. In essence, parthenogenesis is what is commonly called "virgin birth"; that is, giving birth without reliance on the male sperm.* Genetically and physiologically, this is possible: the female egg is capable of doing just that. What we lack, now, is the technical expertise to make that happen in the human female.

Just imagine, we'd have the option to have babies without relying on the goddam male sperm! Furthermore, the offspring is always and inevitably a female! with genetic resemblance to the mother. And precisely because of this, we can be sure that male scientists and researchers will never really carry on their research on parthenogenesis.

Therefore, Sisters, we must start doing something now! I, for one, firmly believe that we can do it--believing in the innate superiority of women: genetically, physiologically, and spiritually, inter alia. Men will continue withholding whatever information and expertise on this that they now have from us. I have concluded that I am not going to passively wait till some miracle happens...I am going to ask my Sisters to join me in making this a REALITY!

So, if you know of anything in this area, or are interested in seeing to that we succeed in the shortest possible period of time, please contact me as soon as you can at: 620 West 116th Street, Apt. 74, New York, New York 10027.

*to fertilize the female egg. --In Amazon Struggle, Liza C. May Chan

The Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts has filed suit on behalf of two lesbians discharged from the Army, in the Massachusetts Federal District Court. Barbara Randolph and Debbie Watson claim the Army deprived them of their constitutional rights of privacy and equal protection by discharging them solely on the basis of their affectional or sexual preference. (see Lesbian Connection Issue 6)

--Advocate

Remember, LC needs \$8 from you (more if you can, less if you can't) to continue.

*Re: 2
Can find
a woman.*

LITTLE PEOPLEMY PRIORITY

I want to say something about children. Some of this may seem contradictory because my ideas are evolving. This is also related to the separatist issue, and the whole question of the tremendous variation among lesbians which is apparent as I meet them and/or read things they have written.

I think it is very important that many women are working to change the expectations of society that all women will have children, and that it is somehow the "fulfillment" of a woman. I very much believe in people making choices about their relationships to children. But as we continue to define how this will be worked out in practical terms, I would add a couple of ideas I've very seldom heard mentioned.

I believe ageism is responsible for much of the discomfort which big people sometimes experience as a result of having little people around. In my experience in the general society, when someone actually remembers to make any provision for the attendance of young people at an event, it is by providing a place where they can be put out of the way so we don't need to relate to them at all. To my disappointment this has also been true with many of the functions I have attended or known about among lesbians. Therefore, neither the little people nor the big people are learning how to get along together, and the chaos which often results when they do get together could be avoided if both groups of people knew more about each other. I don't even like to say "both groups of people" because I think this is the problem: we label them "children" and ourselves "adult" and act as though they are aliens. I have seen big people behave in some pretty strange ways around little people, matronizing ways, sort of like talking loudly to someone from another country because we think they'll understand English better if we speak clearly and loudly.

Another result of this extreme polarization based on age is that there is an extremely uncomfortable period of several years when it is simply not clear whether people are really welcome and accepted or not. At what age does one move from the "child care" into the "conference"? When do we start talking to a person in "adult language"? This dichotomization places yet a third limitation: many people forget the "child" in themselves more and more the longer they live, and we have no opportunity to be reminded of this when our lives are so exclusively "adult", and the ways in which we spend time reflect this.

To go back to the statement that people should be making choices about the extent of their relationships to children: I believe this is true. There is much hard work to be done in many areas; ageism is only one of the things to be changed. It seems right that some women should be putting a priority on sexism per se, and on strengthening women, and on visions of a new kind of woman-oriented world. For those women, this may in fact mean making ageism a second (or third or whatever) priority. In a way that's hard for me to say, because I feel a little lonely or left out when I say it--however, those other things are important to me and I want someone to be working on them. At times, saying that placing a priority on those children to whom I am a parent is a choice doesn't feel very true, because it's a choice that, I believe, cannot be unchosen easily. However, my involvement with the little people in my family in the first place was partly from choice (even considering the conditioning which went into it.) None of my children were so-called "mistakes"--but what if they were? Are we less viable and important as persons because of the mistakes we've all made? I don't believe so.

In the "ideal" world which I can sometimes visualize, these age distinctions will not exist. I know it will take a long time to get there, and lesbians who disagree with me will perhaps not choose to work on this at all, even as a seventh or eighth priority. But then I disagree with you--I think it's an important issue and I want to challenge you to raise your consciousness to the possibility that your objections to children are based on things which are the result of ageism and patriarchal attitudes toward children, and are not in fact necessary if we build our new world in such a way that persons are valued and included without regard to age. Remember, even if you've chosen to separate yourself completely from males (which is a subject I haven't even talked about, and please don't assume you know what I would say), a lot of these little people are potentially women-identified-women.

--Chelsea, Michigan

Miriam Ben Shalom, the only female drill sergeant in the 84th Training Division of the Army Reserves in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, is now being considered for discharge because she is a lesbian. She is an official and public representative of Gay People's Union in Milwaukee, and has been open about her lesbianism from the beginning, and has insisted that homosexuality be discussed in military human relations classes. To send donations or for more info write Miriam Ben Shalom Foundation for Minority Rights, P.O. Box 12030, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 53212.

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The Miss Canada Pageant was disrupted as ten women from the Radical Lesbian Feminists and the Toronto Women Anarchists stormed the stage denouncing the pageant as a "meat market". Police and security guards wrestled the women off stage. A security guard suffered two broken ribs. No charges were brought against the women.

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A N.O.W. EXPERIENCE

There is a very prevalent and very predictable set of experiences awaiting upfront lesbians who join N.O.W. I joined, I know. It's not the kind of overt discrimination straight NOW women practiced in the early seventies. This is different, and potentially far more destructive for lesbian-feminists. Those of us who have been through it joke about it, but it really isn't funny. What happens is this: you go to a couple of meetings and discover that, instead of being shunned because you are a lesbian, you are being actually sought out by straight women. They make you feel like a celebrity. Before you know it, one of them, generally a suburban housewife, is calling you on the phone, asking you to lunch, and complaining to you about her lousy sex life. This goes on until one day you get THE BIGGIE...that's the phone call she makes to tell you she's home, alone, in bed (or on the couch or wherever), naked, and breathless for you. Seems far out? I have checked this story with NOW lesbians I have met from all over the east coast, and it's always pretty much the same. Well, anyway, if you don't know what's happening, (as I didn't), you begin to think you're in love with this poor neglected woman, and you make the emotional commitment to her. You don't find out until a month or two later (when she tells you she really is just experimenting with her sexuality) that all you have been to her is a guinea pig...a rest from the old man. So she winds up with Movement credentials (unwritten law: must have a same-sex experience... in order to understand the problem). And you wind up with a messed over psyche, knowing you have been fucked over in every sense of the words. This has really happened to a lot of us. We should try and warn our sisters. Maybe you can help.

Actually, what we need is a national Lesbian entity. I can't be the only one who's sticking with NOW only because it's the only game in town. I have had enough of straight women and their half-baked feminism to last me the rest of my life. I'm tired of having my energy drained by other women. Something's wrong when that happens.

Anyway, I'm glad you're out there. If I can help in any way, just let me know. I'm tough and I'm able. Thanks for being. For Lesbian Solidarity...

--West Deptford, New Jersey

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Send reactions to the article (and all others) to Ambitious Amazons, P.O. Box 811, East Lansing, Michigan 48823.

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In Philadelphia last June, a 29-year old woman bit off part of the tongue of the man who raped her. At his trial he begged for mercy, after pleading guilty because he now suffers speech and taste impediments, and had undergone excruciating pain. He was sentenced 2-10 years for the rape.

During the trial, the woman testified, "The only strength I had was in my mouth so I used it. I was afraid to let go. I heard a rip and he said, 'You damaged me.'"

--Extracted from Majority Report

* * * * *

In a recent cover story on soap operas, Time magazine stated that an NBC soap, "Days of Our Lives" will introduce a "couple who are indecisive about their sexual preferences."

UPDATE ON GRAND JURY JAILING OF LESBIANS

On December 19, 1975, the Assistant Prosecutor dropped the subpoenas seeking testimony from Terri Turgeon and Ellen Grusse before a federal grand jury in New Haven, Ct. This action brought the release of the two lesbians from jail, after seven months incarceration in the Niantic Correctional Institution. Terri and Ellen had refused to answer questions from the grand jury concerning their friends, and living habits. The grand jury was supposedly investigating the whereabouts of Kathy Power and Susan Saxe, but many feel that it was simply being used as a tool by the FBI to learn more about lesbian and women's communities. The two women had been charged with contempt of court, along with a third woman, Jill Raymond in Lexington, Ky. All three wound up in jail, and have been fighting for their release unsuccessfully ever since. Jill still remains in jail, after close to a year's imprisonment. According to the New Haven defense committee, "The fact that they were imprisoned at all, that their release hinged on the whim of the prosecutor, that Jill remains in jail, while Terri and Ellen have been released, when all had taken exactly the same position in the same investigation, reflects the whimsical fashion in which the government exerts its power."

Letters of support to Jill should be sent to: Jill Raymond, Madison County Jail, Richmond, KY 40601. For info about Terri and Ellen write: GJ Defense Committee, 46 Westwood Rd., New Haven, CT 06515. For background information see "The FBI May Come Knocking at Your Door" in Issue 5 of Lesbian Connection.

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A bill recently passed the Pennsylvania state legislature which would prohibit all people who engage in "deviate sexual intercourse" from working with juveniles, the mentally ill, retarded, or in penal, correctional, or reform institutions. The bill resulted in a demonstration by various lesbian, gay, and civil liberties groups. Labelling the bill "atrocious", the governor Milton Shapp, vetoed it.

Also, the Penn. Attorney General's Office has issued an opinion that the anti-gay bill is unconstitutional. Therefore, even if Shapp's veto is overridden by the legislature, state agencies will not be required to enforce it.

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New Mexico Governor Jerry Apodaca, despite having accepted an invitation to crown this year's homecoming queen at the University of New Mexico, ungraciously bowed out at the last minute. The reason? U. of N.M.'s new homecoming queen was militant lesbian feminist Duffey Ingrassia. The crowning ceremony took place in spite of the governor's absence and various threats of violence. During the ceremony the queen commented, "Right now I feel pretty, and witty, and gay!" She added, "I'm not trying to make a mockery of homecoming, I'd just like to see it brought up to date."

* * * * *

On October 22 an article appeared in the "Dear Abby" column from a young person with the last name of "Gay". She related a number of problems that she has because of her last name. She suggested that in all fairness to those named "Gay", the gay liberation movement should change its name. Abby's answer: "I understand your plight and am most sympathetic, but I doubt if the gay liberation society will consider changing its name. Although you were gay first, I believe there are more of them than there are of you."

* * * * *

Irene S. Lore recently applied for a job at Chase Manhattan Bank in New York City. A few days later she received two letters from the bank in the mail. One was addressed to 'Miss I.R. Lore' and the other to 'Mr. I.S. Lore.' The 'Miss' was told that no positions were available, the 'Mr.' was told an interview could be arranged.

As a result, Ms. Lore, along with nine other women, is suing the bank on charges of sex discrimination.

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Indiana Senator Birch Bayh, an announced presidential candidate, told members of N.Y.'s Gay Political Union that if he is elected President, one of his first actions will be to sign an executive order banning discrimination against gay people in the federal government.

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--Advocate

Remember--LC needs \$8 from you (more if you can, less if you can't) to continue.

LESBIAN MUSIC

Something is happening to Lesbian culture--we're developing our own music. There are even recordings now and at long last we can relate to the musicians and their songs. Or can we? Are we claiming women's music as lesbian? Is there a difference? Here are some opinions of our music and musicians from two of our readers. Let's think about what we are creating--as listeners and supporters, musicians, songwriters, promoters or whatever. Take the time to write your reactions and thoughts and send them along to LG.

AN OPEN LETTER TO ALL LESBIANS

This was in the form of a personal letter, but I am submitting it as an article to be published. This was originally a letter in answer to a letter I received from a woman musician who is a Lesbian. This does not only pertain to her, or to musicians; it is an open letter to all Lesbians including those who do not perform or become involved with traditional art forms as definitions of themselves.

I am not interested in being a WOMAN musician, doing what the "Movement" Women Musicians (even, and sometimes especially Lesbians) define as Women's Music. I have heard myself discussed within the words of "us" and "we". But you and I have very different views about who "we" are, who "they" are, and who the enemy is.

We confront the struggle to survive with very different assumptions. And we compute, analyze, judge, and utilize our experiences as Lesbians, musicians, and women, in very different ways.

You want to deal within a broad category because "our lives are so complex". I say that our lives are so complex because we Lesbians have dealt too long with a broad category. We have Helped build broad categories, and then discover that our Lesbian identities become lost in these universal, patriarchal, motivated, subversive broad categories. And I am bitter about being banned from the "movement concert-circuit" because I will not sing my songs for men.

I do not desire to be part of Women's Music. I am a part of Lesbian Music. I still believe I have nothing to learn from straight women, and I cannot ally myself with women who act as collaborators with the enemy, whether or not they are paid agents. I have learned that Lesbians have been robbed of a movement and identity within this new feminism which has to speak to ALL women. This liberalism and humanitarianism surround the women's movement ("We have to reach the neighborhood women--so you Dykes behave and don't frighten anyone away---") is pathetic and destructive. Lesbians participate in the enemy's behalf against our own sisters--ourselves, by keeping Lesbians out of women's events by making men welcome; I heard of a recent women's dance that only allowed men in IF they were accompanied by a woman. Another time, a women's band totally composed of Lesbians decided to do a benefit for a Lesbian Mother case. The Lesbian Mothers said they did not want a benefit given in their behalf if men were allowed. They did not want women's culture to be viewed by men. The band took this to mean that the Lesbian Mothers did not want to take money from men and the solution to this was the suggestion that men be allowed into the benefit for FREE! Another example: I was asked to participate in a concert in Chicago over a year ago. But another Lesbian musician was told she could not participate in the concert because "more than one separatist in one concert is too many."

I am not an authority on the definitions of Women's Music. I can't define it, and I don't believe I have ever found, heard, played, or been able to conceptualize pure women's music. I have been criticized for using--exploiting--music to get a message across. Neither music, nor the intent of lyrics can be sacrificed for each other, but I don't believe that the focus on music for the sake of music only is admirable. I have been told that a lot of my songs are depressing; they can't be danced to; and why do they each have a "clear political message"? I believe that every song defines itself politically in some way. I have heard musicians say they are obligated to present a "well-rounded introduction to women's music". The need and motivation to do that is certainly a political statement. The need to be always bland and/or "up" and to constantly ignore Lesbian reality is a conscious and oppressive exclusion. Yes, a lot of my songs are depressing. I am consciously trying to write and sing my reality and fantasy as a Lesbian Woman. My primary goal in a concert, or in my living room, is

NOT to get women to dance and drink and snap their fingers and become glazed with the "I'm so high on the music--I've never felt free before" feeling. That feeling of freedom is a delusion that tricks us into thinking that we have made great strides and can rest. I participate in delusion daily as a survival tactic; but to use delusion exclusively as a life-style, invalidating those of us who like to present our own realities, is destructive to Lesbian Souls. The man has taught us to separate art from our own existence. This way, there is no record of our growth, no validation of the struggles that make us grow, and no energy derived from the recognition and validation of how difficult it is to survive. I am trying to learn to combine my life with what I can create in music and lyrics. I am not trying to be a good entertainer. (A straight woman, after hearing a Family of Woman concert told her friend that she got so much energy from us, that she went home and had the best talk and fuck with her husband that she had ever had).

My audience is women. Those who will hear will be lesbians who want to hear. If I am not allowed to play, because of lesbians who can't stand to hear a concert where men and straight women are NOT allowed, then I stop sharing. But there are always lesbians who come and say they have never heard their reality validated in music before. These are the women who are my future and my past.

I no longer call myself a feminist because I liken the atrocities performed in the name of the Women's Movement to those performed in the name of patriarchal religion. The movement today is no more than a federally-funded diversion to radicalism. I believe that the CIA, FBI, etc. do set up parallel groups that act as diversions to potentially strong movements. I believe that they have succeeded with setting up Feminism. (Gloria Steinem is NOT the only collaborator around.) Some of these parallel groups are not even government supported financially. They operate because of patriarchal brain-washing. Now that we are all distracted from our own communities and are very busy focusing on the paid informer, we no longer have to look at EACHOTHER as leaks to the patriarch. And we can stop growing and selecting out the murderers among us. What a nice little safe diversion. It's a constant and perplexing annoyance to me that those of us who chose to stay away from enemies during a war; those of us who believe the struggle of now IS the end result; those of us who are cast out of communities because women insist that there should be no distinction between women EXCEPT to distinguish and expel those of us who make distinctions, that we are considered the separators, the divisive and the manipulators. It is this monster thing called THE MOVEMENT that has chosen to separate from us by participating, with men, in our genocide. This is not a judgement of political awareness. It is no less political to stay hooked to men and collaborators than to try and break free. It is murder.

And now, WOMAN has become a new capitalist venture. Suddenly, closet Lesbians are safely coming out as FEMINISTS because it is safe and there is money to be made off women's music. I keep feeling like I am in a cartoon, and every time I or other Dykes get an idea, and stand up to try it, hordes of Lesbians in drag as feminists come running over us and shove us out of the way.

We Lesbians have been taught to de-value ourselves and our culture. One of the symptoms of under-valuing is that Lesbian audiences are patronized into believing that they/we have no power as an audience. Women musicians, artists, poets, fictioneers, carpenters, plant lovers, herb believers, clowns, etc., keep saying the performer-audience set-up is patriarchal and since we should not set up patriarchal barriers between us--there is no audience and there is no performer. This is a lie. Rather than pretend we can all do the same thing at the same time. We should validate and admit that the concept of audience is extremely powerful, and that it really does exist. I am not only a Lesbian song writer. The energy I need to survive as a Lesbian and a musician is dependent upon the energy I get from other Lesbians when I share my music. When I share music, I am sharing ideas, music, words, images, struggles, energy. I have been told how vulnerable "the audience" is. But I depend totally on the "audience" to hear and give energy and images back to me and to each other.

When we have conversations with each other in our homes, we do not all talk at

the same time all of the time. We flow back and forth into and around each other and we call it sharing. We validate each other's need to listen and to talk. When we make love, we do not each have to be touching at the same time to know we are sharing beauty and strength. The flow of energy is what qualifies participation--not necessarily the momentary activity. Audiences should no longer be patronized and told they don't exist and are not responsible for what happens in a room during a concert. We can only break down that fucked up "star" business after we accept that an audience of lesbians has power and control over energy. The collective audience is a powerful goddess, and we should get validation for listening.

Finally I will say that I compromise my life every day. I always think at that time, that I do it for survival. But to give out Amazon purity tests is not the solution to doing away with compromises. I know that the pricks own this planet, and we either directly or indirectly support them by paying rent, buying food, using their systems, their language, their drugs, and on and on and on. We have not only the need to recapture our identities through our culture, but the right. Why is it so hard to set up women-only not to mention lesbian-only spaces? Why have Lesbians become so frightened of demanding lesbians-only time? You have said that realism demands our sharing be sometimes "mixed". But don't we have a more urgent obligation to try to remember and discover our past and future as a strong woman system?

If you participate in sharing our culture with known enemies in mixed concerts, you are only pretending to subscribe to a pure woman future. Mixed concerts create androgenous energy, and androgenous energy will create androgeny, not Dykes and Amazons.

Linda Shear

P.S. Anyone who is interested in helping arrange a concert for me should contact me at:
Linda Shear c/o Old Lady Blue Jeans c/o VWU 200 Main St. Northampton, Mass. 01060

MEG CHRISTIAN IN CONCERT

Yesterday afternoon a group of dykes left Charlotte, N.C. headed for Chapel Hill. None of us were too excited about the trip (three hours on the interstate) but we knew we couldn't miss the event. The "event" was hearing Meg Christian sing. I am glad (ecstatic) that we didn't miss it. It was the first time that I had a chance to hear women's music and listen to a performance (if you can call what Meg does performing) that was totally for me as a lesbian (woman). Except for the presence of a few men (who quit smiling and clapping along towards the end of the concert) the audience was totally women and majority lesbians.

I don't know about other women who attended but it made me realize exactly how much I block out lyrics (i.e., a part of music) when sung by other women. I've listened to only women artists for a long time now but the effect of listening to women like Janis Ian, Tracy Nelson, Rachel Faro etc., etc. is incomparable to listening to Meg. Like I said, the experience was total-lyrics, music, all of it--talking in between songs. I could identify with it all. I didn't have to block out anything. I knew that I would regret not having my own copy of "I Know You Know"--her album.

She was beautiful, she was magnificent, she was Meg, she was a lesbian. She was expressing me in music. I demand dykes make an effort to see her and buy from Olivia Records.

There is so much more to say: like thank you Theresa Trull, Annie from Chicago, Chris Williamson and all the other women whose music isn't available to us anytime we want to hear it. Keep singing, keep writing. Music not only heals, it reaches and touches where we can't with our words and actions. --Charlotte, N.C.

Send reactions to the article (and all others) to Ambitious Amazons, P.O. Box 811, East Lansing, Michigan 48823.

We were pleased to hear that the Girl Scouts of America recently voted not to let boys join.

WOMEN ON TRIAL FOR "MURDER OF RAPIST".

Dessie X. Woods and Cheryl Todd of Atlanta, Georgia face murder charges in the death of Ronnie Horne, an insurance salesman. The women claim that Horne, who picked them up while hitchhiking, told them that he was a police detective. He had a citizen's band radio in his car and was carrying a hand-gun. Horne spoke to his associate, Royce Yawn, on the radio and the two met at a nearby restaurant. Yawn had been drinking and suggested that the women split up. They refused, and left with Horne. When they became aware that Horne was driving in the wrong direction they left the car. Horne threatened the women with arrest if they did not return to the car. Still believing the man to be a detective, and trying to avoid police harassment, the women returned to the car. The women say that Horne began to make threats of sexual assault, and Ms. Todd jumped from the car in fear. Then Horne stopped the car, drew his gun, and began struggling with Ms. Woods. The gun went off. Ronnie Horne was killed by an unarmed woman with his own gun.

The women, who are black, fled the scene and were arrested the following day and charged with murder and armed robbery. (The latter charge stems from the fact that Horne's wallet was allegedly missing when he was found dead.)

The Dessie and Cheryl Todd defense organization, Inc. are seeking national attention for the case to ensure a fair trial for the women. Like Joanne Little, the organization alleges, these women are involved in a case of women's struggle against sexual assault. Georgia, like N. Carolina and many other states, does not recognize a woman's right to defend herself against sexual assault to the point of killing her assailant.

More information may be obtained from the defense organization at: P.O. Box 1935 Atlanta, Georgia 30301. Telephone: (404) 688-1130/525-0848.

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SOME FURTHER THOUGHTS ON SEPARATISM

I have been doing a bit of reading lately with regard to separatism and I have developed some ideas which I would like to share. As a young lesbian, and inexperienced with lesbian ideology, these ideas for some dykes may be rhetoric but to me they are dynamite. (The fact that I am still closeted has an impact on the way I think).

First, lesbians constitute a minority group, both as women (who are discriminated against in general) and as women whose erotic and/or love orientation is same-sex. (I detest the term homosexual--too commonplace). So while there is a common ground on which we can meet heterosexual women, where is the ground on which we can meet males? One might suggest that male gays are discriminated against as well, which is true. But we must keep in mind that the commonness between lesbians and other women is centered in biology. We are no different from straight females, except for the fact that we have been able, somehow, to break the bonds of male domination, free ourselves to love other women and create our own world as we want it.

There is no doubt but that the "male" is responsible for the plight of "female" today. Historically the male has been dominant, originating in the earliest creation myths and culminating in the patterns of marriage of today. Now it may be that the female has acquiesced to the males in these outrageous ideas. I suspect that a hundred years ago females believed they were not supposed to enjoy sex and achieve orgasm because males told them so. Ultimate responsibility lies however with the male and his political system. Which means then that all males--our fathers, brothers, male gays, etc., are still involved in the same system which seeks to eliminate us.

My idea then is to suggest that in our efforts to separate from males, let us not carry it a step further and isolate ourselves from straight females. We have an ethical responsibility to these women to offer them guidance and direction. While I am no crusader, I think it is important to disseminate material through the media informing other women about lesbianism. Studies show that more and more straight women are experiencing bisexuality, and I think, given the proper social atmosphere, they would become dykes. We may not like the thought of "bisexuality", but it does seem to be a stage in the development of some lesbians. In my own case, in trying to grow up, I moved from exclusive heterosexuality to bisexuality, some time before I was able to freely admit to myself that I was a lesbian. Imagine what it would be like if most of

American women were lesbian!

Thus, I have a very deep feeling for sister lesbians, but I also feel very close to all other women. I like to think of my straight female friends (and all women) as potential lesbians, because I was once one. So let us not, in carrying through a legitimate effort to separate ourselves from men, isolate our ideas and thoughts and love (and organizations) from other women. Or do we believe that we have a monopoly on woman love????

--Houston, Texas

Inez Garcia was released from prison January 9 after a California Court of Appeals reversed her conviction of second degree murder for allegedly killing a man who helped another man rape her. Her new trial is expected to occur this summer.

For more information and to send donations write: Inez Garcia, c/o Susan Jordan, 96 Jessie St., San Francisco, CA 94105.

EQUALITY FOR LESBIANS VS. THE SYSTEM

Having nothing really important or interesting to do one evening last summer I decided to tune in on the Democratic Party's Telethon. It was very enlightening to watch one of our political parties asking The People for money. As the evening wore on I discovered there seemed to be an appeal to just about every group of people in this nation. You will notice I said just about every group. There was one glaring exception. An exception I might add, that is becoming increasingly more powerful and vocal about our rights as equal citizens of this country. That "minority" group is of course we Gay People.

As long as any minority is still oppressed, and we are, it won't mean anything if we solve the multitude of problems facing this country. Unless every citizen is completely free to enjoy those solutions we will have sacrificed every principle our ancestors fought to make the law of the land. As long as we have microscopic legislation, where it does exist, protecting our birthrights as Americans we cannot even begin to change the "straight" world's attitudes toward us. They're losing as much as we are and don't even realize it. When it can happen to us, baby the table could easily tip the other way someday. Like the song said, "Walk a mile in my shoes."

I don't know if our "leaders" are forgetful or just plain afraid to take a stand on a very important issue. I certainly think it's about time our "minority" achieved the status of all the other American minorities. Don't you?

--San Diego, CA

WOMEN PRISONERS SUE N. CAROLINA

Thirty-seven prisoners of the North Carolina Correctional Center for Women in Raleigh, have filed a damage suit against that state for \$25 million. The suit is a result of a peaceful protest for improved prison conditions that took place in June, 1975, which was violently put down by armed guards.

The complaint itself, challenges unjust and inhumane conditions of confinement and the constitutionality of actions taken by the Department of Corrections against the women both during and after the protest.

For further information contact: Action for Forgotten Women, 1601 Sedgewfield St., Apt. E, Durham, NC 27705.

--Thanks to Majority Report Vol. V, No. 19

Remember--LC need \$8 from you (more if you can, less if you can't) to continue.

EMILY DICKINSON

On Christmas Eve, 1975, Professor Rebecca Patterson died in Amarillo, TX. The Lesbian community is deeply indebted to Ms. Patterson for her pioneering efforts to tell the truth about American poet Emily Dickinson, whose life she perceived as a "tragedy" because Ms. Dickinson was never able to fulfill her gay desires. Ms. Patterson was not a lesbian herself, but arrived as a scholar at the belief that no other explanation but lesbianism serves to explain the work of the poet. Although she received no public support even from those people who admitted privately to her that they

believed her thesis to be correct, she continued her fight. Even now the manuscript is not receiving the attention due it and is being rebuffed by publishers. Prof. Patterson's manuscripts are being handled by her daughter, Ms. Ann Patterson, 2019 Milan, Amarillo, TX 79109.

* * * * *

COMING UP FOR AIR: A LESBIAN SEPARATIST SPEAKING

Well, I figured it was time to stick my lonely head out and talk about my, or actually my collective and what we've been up to lately. We are Drastic Dykes in Charlotte, N.C.

It's been a rocky road the last month or so as we are finally beginning to analyze our emotional conflicts; a very heavy thing to do when one has chosen the political position of Lesbian Separatism, (for lack of better words) or separating our lives from man, male-identified women, male structures (as far as survival allows), male thought. Few lesbians choose this position; we are alone-isolated-and our relationships in the group have been feeling this pressure.

The drains that survival put on us along with our own slow acceptance of the ideas that we are not part of this world anymore; that our position gives us enemies among women; that we have to stop pretending straight women are Lesbians; these things have taken their tolls of energy from each of us, and probably hurt our group communication. These realizations have been hard earned as D.D. members were once part of Charlotte's Women's Center (there is no Lesbian organization here) - our separation from that group of women (largely straight) most powerfully told us of the uniqueness of our commitment to Women's Revolution in ourselves. So our isolation up to now has been with despair and disappointment, as the dreams we shared with those women at the Center have slowly died. We are now looking for new ones, with Lesbian energy alone.

Besides "losing" the Center and our past "place in the Women's Movement," we have each lost or rejected parts of our lives.

My deciding to go through this process of separation is choosing to be myself in the most complete way I've found. If I ever sensed a falsity in my feelings or reactions, it would mean new decisions, new analysis. The only way I know I'm doing what I want is because it feels right inside. A Lesbian Separatist doesn't get approval from the outside, so this inner analysis is very important. We, in our group, always hoped to help each other with this, as we have somewhat, but conflicts have arisen and we've kind of let things take us.

So I think that's where we are now--trying to get the junk out of how we relate to each other. Incredibly hard. Self-analysis seems easy in comparison. It is easier to make demands on oneself than someone else. That's not how it should be. Some concrete problems: competition, possessiveness, coupling, assumptions, expectations. I could go on; I'm not a perfectionist either; I just want to be relaxed in a total way with women I'm sharing my life-energy with.

We have talked "project" a lot--you know--"doing something"--a journal, a center, etc...Hopefully our energies will center on something before too long. But it's got to be right for us. For once we want our brains and our feelings together about a decision; say, instead of brains long before feelings, as in the case of the Women's Center. We left physically--politically long before we did emotionally, if we ever will completely. Up to now we were the universal Lesbian mother, who loved all women, all people who accepted her--straight women, gay males, anybody, disregarding that the returned nurturance in those relationships was not nearly what we made it in our heads. Not anymore for me.

We Drastic Dykes have had a few adventures. To get some money, two of us did a workshop on Lesbian Separatism at a very straight Women's Day at a local college. That was rather disastrous - I suppose - we argued a lot; some women left. I will not feel bad about defending myself, about refusing to accept their liberal attempts at understanding. I think it is important to make demands on women--that sisterhood is nice but women are still scared to death of commitment or threatening behavior. My sisterhood bled me dry, I had to think of survival. I will continue to demand women to see me on the terms I am making, finding for myself; rejecting male terms.

I have a plea now for Lesbian Drastic Dykes separatist women who are reading this and understanding it, I hope. I, we, D.D. want to hear from you, to correspond. We're desperate. The Women's Movement is in turmoil; women are arguing, fighting, moving. This communication becomes doubly important for we need to see that we are not crazy; that our actions are the actions of others. That out of our turmoil we can find decisions and directions. We are Drastic Dykes, P.O. Box 3302, Charlotte, N.C. 28203. I'm Clair. In Lesbian Struggle.

"IN RESPONSE TO LESBIAN IN THE CLOSET"

A long-time Lesbian cannot help but appreciate the feelings on the writer from Bronx, N.Y. who wrote about her experience as a closet lesbian.

Unfortunately, most of us are closet lesbians when we live and work in a straight society. I spent six years in prison under which circumstances one can more or less be oneself. In a way it is a better environment for a lesbian, though I certainly prefer the streets under any circumstances.

As a professional woman, I find it necessary most of the time to entertain straights and to put on a front. It gripes the hell out of me and I don't always feel too good about myself. There are times I'd prefer to tell them all the score. But life is a matter of survival and one must do what one must to survive in her personal world under her own personal circumstances.

Some women are in a position to tell the world and to be out front. God bless them. Other women must remain less active and stay on the sidelines to a great extent. But both types of women are of great importance. Each can help our cause in her own personal way. If we become successful on our lives we can then say, "...see, lesbians can do as much or more than anyone else." And that's what it's all about, our movement that is.

Perhaps what the writer of that letter called "fear" is really simple smartness for her as it is for many lesbians. But guilt is a fruitless self-defeating emotion; an unnecessary one too. Because every lesbian will have the right time and the right place when and where she can shine and do great things for herself and her sisters. It may be in a small way or a large way but every step toward equal rights and a peaceful co-existence is an important step to us. Let each of us value our own self worth.

--Antioch, Calif.

Send reactions to the article (and others) to Ambitious Amazons, P.O. Box 811, East Lansing, Michigan 48823.

PHILADELPHIA LESBIANS DEMONSTRATE

DYKETACTICS! is a collective of dykes; lesbian feminists committed to actions which will raise public consciousness and electrify the imaginations of the gay and women's communities. In Philadelphia they and other members of the gay community appeared in City Council Chambers to protest the council's failure to move ahead on a gay rights bill. When it became clear the bill would not be introduced Dyketactics! led the group in chant to free the bill. Guards and the Civil Disobedience squad pounced on the group throwing them to the floor, kicking, beating, and sexually molesting them. Before the violence was over, all members supporting the protest were forcibly evicted. Dyketactics! were the last to leave, waiting in the halls, singing. They had a puppet, a witch who proclaimed, "I am the lesbian suppressed in every woman, I am the woman in every male crucified on the cross of manhood."

A second attack took place as the women were leaving the building. The exits were blocked by the Civil Disobedience squad and they surrounded the women, splitting up the group, shoving them up stairs, kicking, punching, and dragging them by their hair back downstairs, and then forcibly evicting them. Six of the women required medical attention, and all of the women are filing suit against the C.D. squad for damages and City Hall for relief to prevent a further abridgement of civil rights.

Financial and sisterly support is appreciated--write DYKETACTICS!, c/o Free Women's School, Penn. Women's Center, 112 Logan Hall, Philadelphia, PA 19174.

TO REVOLUTIONARY DYKES

Editor's Note: This is in response to an article about the Socialist/feminist Conference in LC, Vol. 1, Issue 8.

The things you wrote about really hit home. It's hard to know where to start. We're separatist dykes. We're sick of being suckers for everyone else's needs and everyone else's crap. So, separatism to us means no energy to straight women or even to lesbians who hang out with straight women. We want to take our time and energy and put it into making us better--angrier--more loving dykes.

What you said about families--we are always getting in fights because we think families--any family--are sick. There is no way we can relate to our families--we broke off with them completely. Shit--parents got TOTAL power over kids.

Then what you said about no WHITE workshops--ain't that typical! We're white and feel that white dykes got to deal with our own racist shit and not expect dykes of color to do the work for us. And what you said about white women not criticizing and getting pissed at some Third World women for their "keep the family strong" crap. Wow--that really gets us mad--Racism liberal style--and what a rip-off of us dykes--Black and White.

We think it's real important for all of us to face the privileges we got. No matter how ripped off people are--there always seems to be someone else to shit on. So many times we've heard dykes say "well, I'm oppressed--don't hassle me"--like this lesbian we knew who refused to deal with how she put "ugly" people down. She said she had enough problems being a lesbian and having been poor as a kid. Well, there's a difference between understanding why we do stuff and using that as an EXCUSE. We know we got a lot of fucked-up attitudes and reactions inside of us and we want to change them.

We spend a lot of time and energy learning how to take care of ourselves. We believe in getting PRACTICAL skills--mechanics, electrical, health skills. We try to take care of our bodies with decent food. We spend a lot of time working in our garden. We work-out just about everyday--running, playing handball, lifting weights. We believe in learning to protect ourselves, and we've learned to train dogs. We work with ours a whole lot and have two fantastic lesbian attack dogs.

When revolutionary dykes get together in trust and love we believe in sharing--money, skills, knowledge, problems and feelings. We don't believe in PRIVATE TRIPS.

Here's an address for us--maybe you all in Stanton, Kentucky and revolutionary dykes anywhere will write--we need all the support and understanding and criticism we can give each other. Red Dykes, c/o Feminist Women's Center, 2445 W. Eight Mile, Detroit, Michigan 48203.

* * * * *

One of Austin, Texas' major newspapers, the "American Statesman", recently refused to run two ads specifically for lesbians. The first, submitted by the Austin Lesbian Organization, announced the group's November meeting. The second was from two lesbians who wanted to rent the duplex they own to lesbians/gays. According to the two lesbians the newspaper had previously run ads for jobs and housing which specified "no gays" need apply.

When questioned about the refusal to run the lesbians' ads, a spokesman for the paper stated, "We have policies against certain types of advertising. We have the right to turn down any advertising we want to, and we don't have to give any reasons for it."

--info from Pointblank Times and Daily Texan

* * * * *

Barbara Love, co-author of Sappho Was a Right-On Woman, in addressing this year's American Psychological Association convention seminar on homosexuality, said that she feels lesbians have a psychological advantage in business over heterosexual women, "because of a feeling of equality with men, not only because they do not seek masculine approval, but because they have aspired to healthy personality characteristics" which the conventional confining "feminine" role does not allow.

* * * * *

--GPU News

Quemado High School's football program has been suspended for one year because the coach sent Sally Guttierrez in for a single play in a game. The N.M. Activities Association objected but Sally won in court the right to play. The Assn. has now ruled that she played before the ruling and was therefore in violation of the rules of the league at the time.

--GPU News

LESBIAN MOTHERS: FIGHTING FOR THEIR RIGHTS

Across the country, lesbian mothers are involved in custody cases more than ever before. The results of these cases could have a big affect on the many more lesbians trying to create a family for themselves and their children.

The first time that a jury has ever been called upon to rule on the fitness of a parent because of the parent's sexual orientation was in the case of Mary Jo Risher of Dallas, Texas. This fall the jury ruled she is an unfit mother because she is a lesbian. They gave custody of her nine year old son to her ex-husband, who began the court proceedings against her. She now must pay him \$22 a week child support.

Mary Jo's lover, Ann Foreman, has an 11 year old daughter who continues to live with them. Ann's ex-husband has no objections.

The Dallas chapter of N.O.W. has given their support to Mary Jo and is presently raising a defense fund and plans to help her appeal the decision.

Another lesbian mother actually had her daughter kidnapped from her by her ex-husband. Ginny Martell of Austin, Texas was awarded custody of her daughter, Tanya, at the time of her divorce. Over a year ago her ex-husband, Jack, forcibly abducted Tanya and has taken her to another state. The Travis County Attorney's Office in Texas is finally considering filing kidnapping charges against him. In addition, a feminist lawyer in the city where Jack now lives has filed a writ of habeas corpus on Ginny's behalf; when this comes to court the ex-husband will have to return Tanya to her legal guardian (Ginny) or be found in contempt of court. Whatever happens, Jack has threatened to open the custody case, so the courts of one state or another will decide which is the greater crime: kidnapping or being a lesbian mother.

Ginny intends to fight the case as a lesbian-feminist. Her winning could establish a favorable precedent for other lesbian mothers. She'll need support for her case in Florida--apparently where Tanya now is living. She is looking for lesbian contacts in Tampa and St. Petersburg. If you can be of help write to her at the following address: The Ginny Martell Custody Fund, c/o Bobby J. Nelson, 501 West 12, Austin, Texas 78701. (Ms. Nelson is Ginny's lawyer.)

A case that we reported in the September issue of LC, that of Bonnie Youngs, was given a favorable decision by a judge in Big Rapids, Michigan. Bonnie won custody of her two daughters as an admitted lesbian, with no restrictions placed on her by the judge. The Lesbian Mothers National Defense Fund is helping her with costs.

Among other cases that LMNDF has helped is a case in Toledo, Ohio where Judy and Carol won custody of their seven children as open lesbians. Also a couple in Seattle, Washington, Nancy and Marilyn, who have been fighting for two years for custody of their children. LMNDF has just reported that they lost the fight to regain custody of two of their seven children. The decision, which came down in December, was delivered by a judge who was openly hostile in his description of Nancy and Marilyn's relationship and stated in effect that he would not allow those perverts to expose their wicked lifestyle to the two girls. Obviously the two judges who gave Nancy and Marilyn custody of their other children didn't feel that way.

Two women in Seattle who have started working actively with LMNDF are involved in a case over one of their four children who refuses to visit his father. The boy's father has gone to great length to demand visitation with the unwilling boy and has generally given the family a great deal of harassment. They have been to court for a hearing, but the boy must still go on visitations with his father. The couple hopes that through a Family Court investigation that their son will have some representation in court (he is 5 years old). Their court worker feels that lesbianism is not the issue, she sees it as a child rights issue. The father is using lesbianism in an attempt to discredit the couple.

For more information on this case and many others, a subscription to the Lesbian Mothers National Defense Fund newsletter, Mom's Apple Pie, is \$2.00, membership is \$5.00. Write to: LMNDF, 2446 Lorentz Pl. N., Seattle, WA 98109.

To help out Mary Jo Risher write to: Friends of Mary Jo Risher, Box 174, Dallas, Texas 75221.

Thanks to Pointblank Times, Vol II, No. 1, Gay Community News, Vol 3, No. 31, and Mom's Apple Pie for the above information.

--Beth

DIRECTORY OF LESBIAN PUBLICATIONS

Here is the up-dated listing of lesbian publications being published today. There have been about 15 changes in rates/addresses since we first published this directory last issue, so be sure to check out this new information. Once again, if a "?" appears before a listing it means we've never seen it ourselves and therefore don't know if it exists or not. If any of you have further information about these publications, or any others that you might know of, please let us know. Remember, we depend on our readers to keep us informed of what's going on in their areas.

Following the directory is the second half of a review of these lesbian publications, which includes explanations of the publications along with the reviewer's own reactions to each of them. All lesbian publications have permission to reprint this directory along with the review, as long as credit is given to Lesbian Connection. We hope this directory helps all these publications grow, and more important, that it aides our readers in finding the many fine publications that exist. Please let us know if you want us to continue publishing directories and listings like this in future issues of Lesbian Connection.

--Ambitious Amazons

ALBATROSS 82 S. Harrison St., East Orange, NJ 07017 Quarterly \$7.00/year sample copy \$1.50

ALFA NEWSLETTER P.O. Box 5502, Atlanta, GA 30309 Phone (404) 523-7786 Monthly \$3.00 year \$4.00 institutions (free with \$6.00 membership to Atlanta Lesbian Feminist Alliance)

AMAZON QUARTERLY See "Publications of the Past"

AMBITIOUS AMAZON REPORT P.O. Box 811, East Lansing, MI 48823 Phone (517) 371-5257 Monthly Free to lesbians in Michigan

? BLAZING STAR c/o Chicago Women's Liberation Union, 2478 N. Lincoln, Chicago, IL 60614 Phone (312) 953-6808

CONNECTIONS See "Publications of the Past"

? COWRIE 359 E. 68th St., New York, NY 10021 \$5.00 for ten issues

DALLAS DOB NEWSLETTER No current address available

DESPERATE LIVING P.O. Box 7124, Baltimore, MD 21218 Quarterly \$3.00 for 6 issues \$6.00 institutions

DINAH 6368 Heitzler, Cincinnati, OH 45224 Monthly \$3.00 year

DYKE c/o Tomato Publications, 70 Barrow St., New York, NY 10014 Quarterly \$8.00 year \$11.00 overseas, \$15.00 institutions

DYKES CENTRAL NEWS BULLETIN P.O. Box 4264, Tampa, FL 33607 Phone 251-8620

FOCUS c/o Boston DOB, Room 323, 419 Boylston St., Boston, MA 02116 Phone (617) 262-1592 Monthly \$6.00 year (free with \$12.00 membership to Boston DOB) sample 60c

GOODBYE TO ALL THAT P.O. Box 3301, Austin, TX 78764 Monthly \$3.00 year

? LAVENDER LUMINARY P.O. Box 234, c/o Gay Women's Liberation, Lawrence, KS 66044 Phone 842-7505 Bimonthly (approx.)

LAVENDER WOMAN P.O. Box 60206, Chicago, IL 60660 Phone (312) 935-4270 (leave message) Quarterly \$4.00 year \$8.00 institutions sample copy 65c

LAZETTE See "Publications of the Past"

LE'SBEINFORMED c/o LRC, 2104 Stevens Ave. So, Minneapolis, MN 55404 Phone (612) 871-2601 Monthly \$3.00 year

LESBIAN ALLIANCE NEWSLETTER P.O. Box 4201, Tower Grove Station, St. Louis, MO 63163 Phone 664-7249 Monthly

LESBIAN CENTER NEWSLETTER c/o Apple Pie Collective, 427 Spring St., Lansing, MI 48912 Phone (517) 484-3475 Monthly

LESBIAN CONNECTION c/o Ambitious Amazons, P.O. Box 811, East Lansing, MI 48823 Phone (517) 371-5257 Bimonthly Free to all lesbians in U.S. \$13.00 institutions \$2.00 outside U.S.

THE LESBIAN FEMINIST c/o LFL, 243 West 20 St., New York, NY 10011 Phone (212) 691-5460 Monthly \$3.00 year

LESBIAN FRONT P.O. Box 8342, Jackson, MS 39204 Monthly \$3.00 year sample copy 25c

LESBIAN HERSTORY ARCHIVES NEWSLETTER P.O. Box 1258, New York, NY 10014 Phone (212) 874-7232 Irregular

- LESBIAN LIPSERVICE c/o Gay Women's Advocate Office, 326 Michigan Union, Ann Arbor, MI 48104 Monthly
- LESBIAN TIDE 1005 Ocean Ave. #B, Santa Monica, CA 95116 Phone (213) 394-4829 Bimonthly \$7.50 year
- LESBIAN VISIONS PO Box 8265, Stanford, CA 94301 Irregular
- LESBIAN VOICES PO Box 3122, San Jose, CA 95116 Phone (408) 378-7665 Quarterly \$5.00 year
- LFC NEWS 3523 N. Halsted, Chicago, IL 60657 Phone (312) 935-4270 Monthly
- LIL c/o Women's Association, Law School, Golden Gate College, 536 Mission St, San Francisco, CA 94105 \$1.00 year
- MOM'S APPLE PIE c/o Lesbian Mothers National Defense Fund, 2446 Lorentz Place North, Seattle, WA 98109 Phone (206) 282-5798 \$2.00 year (free with \$5.00 membership to LMSDF)
- MOONSTORM PO Box 4201, Tower Grove Station, St. Louis, MO 63163 Phone 664-7249 Irregular \$4.50 for six issues
- ? NEW WOMANKIND PO Box 18102, Beuchel, KY 40218
- THE OTHER SIDE PO Box 132, San Rafael, CA 94902 Phone 456-9981 Monthly \$3.00 year (free with \$10.00 membership to the Other Side)
- POINTBLANK TIMES PO Box 14643, Houston, TX 77021 Monthly \$5.00 or \$10.00 (or more) for twelve issues
- PURPLE COW c/o Gay Women's Peer Counseling, Box 3321, University Station, Columbus, OH 43210 Phone (614) 236-0229 Irregular Send money for postage or four stamps
- SIGNAL c/o Gay Nurses Alliance West, PO Box 17953, San Diego, CA 92117 Phone (714) 566-9318 \$2.50 year
- SISTERS see "Publications of the Past"
- SO'S YOUR OLD LADY c/o LRC, 2104 Stevens Ave So, Minneapolis, MN 55404 Phone (612) 871-2601 Bimonthly \$6.00 year
- WE GOT IT c/o Lesbian Switchboard, University YMCA, 306 N. Brooks St, Madison, WI 53715 Phone 257-7378 Monthly \$3.00 year sample copy 25c
- ? WICCE Box 15833, Philadelphia, PA 19103 \$2.50 year
- THE WISHING WELL PO Box 1711, Santa Rosa, CA 95403 \$5.00 for two issues
- THE WOMAN'S WOMAN 910 1/2 East Pike, Seattle, WA 98122 Phone 329-9493 Monthly
- NEW ADDITIONS TO THE LISTING
- DYKE LIFE PO Box 44408, Indianapolis, IN 46244
- GAY-LA c/o DOB, PO Box 52113, New Orleans, LA 70152 Phone 945-2217 Bimonthly \$3.00 year (free with membership to New Orleans DOB)
- LESBIAN FEMINIST UNION NEWS PO Box 3764, Louisville, KY 40201
- LESBIAN PUBLICATIONS OUTSIDE U.S.
- ? CIRCLE Box 427, Waterloo Quay, Wellington, NEW ZEALAND \$4.00 year
- ? GAY GIRL QUARTERLY (formerly ARENA THREE), Gay publications, BCM/Seahorse, London WC1, ENGLAND L1.80 year
- LESBENPRESSE Lesbenpressen Killektiv, 1 Berlin 30, Kulmerstr. 20A, 3. Hinterhof 2. Stock GERMANY
- LONG TIME COMING Box 218, Station F, Montreal PQ, CANADA monthly \$5.00 year, \$10.00 institutions sample copy 50c
- ? NATIONAL LESBIAN NEWSLETTER c/o Maggie Sellers, 3 Dunlop Ave., Lenton, Nottingham, ENGLAND L1.00 year
- SAPPHO 39 Wardour Street, London W1V 3HA, GREAT BRITAIN Monthly
- PUBLICATIONS OF THE PAST

The following publications no longer exist, but often back issues of them are available. Three of these publications ceased publishing just this past summer, and we're truly sorry to see them disappear.

AIN'T I A WOMAN? Box 1169, Iowa City, IA 52240 We've heard that the collective who published this paper is still putting out pamphlets, but we don't know if this is true.

FURIES Box 8843 SE Station, Washington, DC 20003 Back issues unavailable, but Diana Press has published 3 books made up of articles from the Furies: Lesbianism and The Women's Movement, Class and Feminism, and Women Remembered. \$2.25 each from

Diana Press, 12 W. 25th St, Baltimore, MD 21218

LAZETTE Newsletter of the New Jersey Daughters of Bilitis, which disbanded this summer
SISTERS c/o DOB, 1005 Market Street #404, San Francisco, CA 94103 Phone (415)

861-8689 The September issue was the last for this publication which had been in existence for over five years.

AMAZON QUARTERLY c/o Amazon Press, 395 60th Street, Oakland, CA 94618 AQ just quit publishing this past summer. It was a highly regarded national literary arts journal. The women who put it out also published CONNECTIONS, a penpal listing for lesbians.

THE LADDER Box 5025, Washington Station, Reno, Nevada 89503 Published from 1956 until 1972--probably one of the earliest and longest living lesbian publications in America. Back issues available.

REVIEW OF LESBIAN PUBLICATIONS: PART TWO

In the second part of this review I will continue to give short explanations of the many publications left to be discussed. Also, I'll include my personal feelings about each, but please remember these are just my opinions, not those of Lesbian Connection. If you disagree with my evaluation of any of these publications, or if I've left any out, please let us know.

Of the publications left to be reviewed, three of them survive on donations instead of having a regular subscription cost. Each of them is 4-5 pages long, [in this review, pages always indicate sheets of paper] and they're basically local publications. THE WOMAN'S WOMAN comes from Seattle, Wash., and includes a monthly calender of events for lesbians, along with reports on the activities of the many various lesbian groups in Seattle. In addition each issue has several articles on a variety of topics, from the politics of cameras to information on food stamps, or advice about the FBI. THE WOMAN'S WOMAN has contained many strong opinions on political issues, while still providing good information for all of Seattle's lesbians.

LESBIAN LIPSERVICE (Ann Arbor, Mich.) contains poetry, announcements about lesbian and women's groups, and articles about community efforts and conflicts. Past issues have also included articles on alcoholism, and the politics of the local softball team. This newsletter definitely makes a good attempt at establishing communication among Ann Arbor's lesbians.

THE PURPLE COW (Columbus, Ohio) is aimed at lesbians throughout the state of Ohio. I've only seen two issues of this publication, and they were filled with poetry, fiction, reports on midwest conferences, some national news, and a listing of lesbian groups in Ohio. Unfortunately we haven't received either THE PURPLE COW or LESBIAN LIPSERVICE since last summer. I hope that neither has folded, for they both are good lesbian publications.

There are 6 lesbian newsletters that are similar to the above 3 except for the fact that these six all charge \$3.00 for a year's subscription (twelve issues). Three of these newsletters are associated with what appear to be quite active lesbian organizations in their cities. These newsletters, which are 8-10 pages long, have a good mixture of both the groups' announcements, and general interest articles by local lesbians. GOODBYE TO ALL THAT from the Austin Lesbian Organization in Austin, Texas, covers activities in Austin and throughout Texas. In addition, it usually includes some poetry, book reviews, and points of view concerning various areas of disagreement in the community. The GOODBYE TO ALL THAT collective recently reorganized, and they hope that, with the participation of Austin's lesbians, they can produce a paper that's even better than before.

The Atlanta Feminist Alliance in Atlanta, Georgia puts out the ALFA NEWSLETTER. As with the Austin newsletter, ALFA's includes extensive reports from its committees (media, library, political, finance, etc.), book reviews, local classified ads and poetry. Recent articles have dealt with FBI harrassment, competition in sports, a report on a women's martial arts conference, and the recounting of an afternoon spent with Kate Millett. I always enjoy reading the ALFA NEWSLETTER, partly because I have some good friends who live in Atlanta, and also due to the fact that it's a good publication. It's obvious that both Atlanta and Austin have active lesbian groups, and

their newsletters reflect this strong activity.

From Madison, Wis. we receive WE GOT IT, a publication who's purpose is "to express the ideas and creativity of the Madison area Lesbian community and to make more readily available information that has been gathered at Lesbian Switchboard..." In my opinion WE GOT IT seems to be succeeding in its purpose. This publication contains more poetry and graphics than the other two, along with recipes, reviews, and a calendar of events. There's less emphasis on the group's activities than in the Atlanta or Austin papers, probably because the group sponsors less activities to talk about. Articles have covered topics such as dorm living, dykes in the Navy, alcoholism, and conferences. Also there have been some humor/satire pieces like "Why Dykes Should Wear Baseball Gloves" and "1st Lesbian Code of Ethics" (for love triangles). Although I sometimes don't understand some of the articles because they concern local events, I do like reading all three of these newsletters. I think the lesbians in these towns should be proud of what they produce.

A rather unique periodical, LESBIAN FRONT, comes to us from Jackson, Miss. In its 3-4 pages LF features summaries of what has appeared in other lesbian, gay, and women's publications. This is an original approach, and I think it might be an essential aid to anyone trying to set up a library of publications. (I've sometimes wished someone would come up with a "Reader's Guide" to lesbian/women's publications). Occasionally LF also has poetry, and accounts of various lesbian communities in its "Roving Dyke Report", along with some news and announcements. The November issue of LESBIAN FRONT was almost its last, because the lesbians who put it out were moving out of Mississippi. However another woman took over, and I'm very glad that this publication is continuing to survive and grow.

THE OTHER SIDE published by the Other Side lesbian group in San Rafael, CA, is a fine short (2-3 page) newsletter. Each month this newsletter begins with a report of how the previous month's activities went. This is followed by announcements of future events and discussion topics, some poetry, local classified ads, and usually a book review. Reading THE OTHER SIDE gives me the impression of a lesbian group that's not extremely political, but one that's exceptionally warm and friendly--qualities sometimes lacking in lesbian organizations.

The last of these six newsletter is DINAH put out by a lesbian in Cincinnati, Ohio in association with Ohio's NOW Task Force on Sexuality and Lesbianism. While DINAH includes some poetry and announcements, the majority of each issue is devoted to interesting original articles (usually written by the editor), and fine articles reprinted from other sources. The features chosen for reprinting range from very recent articles to some lesbian movement "classics" (such as Judy Grahn's "Edward the Dyke"), and these add considerable depth and variety to DINAH. This publication, along with the other newsletters I've just discussed, are in my opinion excellent responses to the growing need for increased communication within lesbian communities across the country.

POINTBLANK TIMES (Houston, TX) is similar to the above periodicals except that it is published by an independent collective of lesbians. Therefore, its 6 pages are devoted mainly to feature articles, poetry, and graphics, rather than news and events of a sponsoring group. The POINTBLANK TIMES collective also seems more concerned with literary quality than most other newsletter collectives, something which I feel has both good points and bad ones. It's obvious that much time is spent on the layout and printing of PBT, with the result that it is one of the best-looking lesbian periodicals published today. Overall PBT has some excellent and diverse articles, good Texas news coverage, and fine graphics all in a very professional-looking format. As POINTBLANK TIMES celebrates its first anniversary, I'd like to wish it a long and continually expanding existence.

There are three lesbian magazines, published in large cities, that are each dedicated to providing space for lesbians in their cities to communicate their creative feelings and thoughts. Two of these, DESPERATE LIVING (Baltimore, MD) and MOONSTORM! (St. Louis, MO), are published quarterly, and the third, SO'S YOUR OLD LADY (Minneapolis, MN) comes out every other month. All 4 of these magazines are printed on 10 to 14 pages the size of 11x14 folded in half in magazine form. Each contains poetry, reviews, graphics, and some letters, yet the emphasis in each is quite different

from the others.

Of the three SO'S YOUR OLD LADY places the greatest importance on graphics, fiction, and poetry, while still including articles on topics such as Sagaris (a feminist school held last summer) and the local softball team. I feel that the diversity of the fiction in SO'S YOUR OLD LADY is quite amazing. It has ranged from a one-page account of one woman's search for a cat to love to a three-part story about a woman and her grandmother. The staff of the magazine also sponsors workshops to provide local writers with "loving help". DESPERATE LIVING contains some graphics (and superb covers), but I feel their articles and news briefs are the main substance of this magazine. Past issues have featured a comprehensive presentation both of "Lesbianism and the Law" and "Gay Liberation: 1860 to 1935". DESPERATE LIVING impresses me as a lesbian magazine, rather than feminist or gay, and I especially appreciate the fact that when "women's" issues are dealt with there generally is an attempt to relate them to the specific situation of lesbians (e.g., an article on women and credit concluded with a half-page devoted to "Why this concerns us as lesbians").

The St. Louis publication, MOONSTORM also gives more space to articles than to poetry or graphics. The overall appearance seems less professional to me than either of the other two magazines, but it's been improving in the more recent issues. MOONSTORM is the only one of the three that deals with one basic theme each issue. Past themes have been separatism, gay bars, and addiction. At times I believe that the theme approach provides the potential for more in depth analysis of the topic. Each issue also has some announcements, recipes, and a listing of services available from women in St. Louis (from guitar lessons to piano tuning). These three magazines present interesting mixtures of various aspects of lesbian creativity: literary arts, news and politics.

The last 3 publications which I'll discuss are LAVENDER WOMAN (Chicago, IL), LESBIAN VOICES (San Jose, CA), and THE ALBATROSS (East Orange, NJ). These three periodicals are all quarterlies, but that's where the similarity ends.

LAVENDER WOMAN began over 4 years ago, and thus it's one of the longest living lesbian publications around. In addition, it is the only lesbian periodical that I know of that comes out in newspaper form. Up until a month ago LW was published every six to eight weeks, but beginning with their next issue it will be a quarterly. In the past LW provided probably the most comprehensive news coverage of any lesbian publication. The news emphasis was on the midwest and Chicago, but many national stories were also covered in the pages of LW. The center pages of this newspaper were devoted to poetry, and the rest of the paper included an excellent letters section, reviews, announcements, and classified ads. I felt that its articles were of uneven quality, but often some of the best material being published was in LW (e.g., "Drunkology", "Back to the Closet", and "Aging Lesbians are like Wine-Better"). My main complaints with LAVENDER WOMAN concerned what I perceived as very biased reporting in certain instances, and an over-emphasis on feminist movement issues and stars. Overall, though, I felt that LW was one of the better lesbian publications, and I hope that with its change-over to a quarterly it can be even better than before.

LESBIAN VOICES is one of the longer magazines being published--18 pages 11x14 folded as a magazine. This magazine is fairly professional looking, with some graphics, and in the last two issues some photography. In addition it contains a short letters section, occasional fiction, and some ads. Basically LESBIAN VOICES has no news coverage; instead it devotes its pages to lots of poetry and articles. There are often areas such as monogamy, bisexuality, and parthenogenesis have been discussed along with some articles dealing with topics I personally have little interest in (e.g., "Democratic Socialism vs. State Socialism", and "Open Letter to Libertarian Review"). It should be noted that LESBIAN VOICES is one of the few lesbian publications that could be considered national in scope, for the vast majority of its articles are aimed at lesbians living anywhere, rather than being basically about or for local lesbians. It's clear that the editor of this magazine devotes a lot of energy and time to publishing LESBIAN VOICES, and in its one year existence this publication has grown tremendously in size and depth.

One of the last publications left to be reviewed is THE ALBATROSS (East Orange, N.J.) a "Radical-lesbian-feminist-satire-sarcasm-magazine". This magazine contains some letters, poetry, comix, reviews, and ads in addition to columns and some articles. Perhaps I don't have much of a sense of humor, but I usually have trouble dealing with this publication's attempts at satire. I realize that everyone has different standards, but I personally feel that much of what's on the pages of THE ALBATROSS is simply in bad taste. The attitude of this magazine is perhaps illustrated by its policy on ads: "Albatross accepts ads at our discretion, and we aren't terribly discreet, so send what you have and chances are we'll cop-out on our 'principles' when we see your check--on the other hand, we are actively seeking: ads that add to the general taste and appearance of the magazine and when we have sufficient funds to adopt a 'gofuckyourself' attitude, we will limit ourselves to lesbian/feminist (and drug-oriented) advertisements." They have also stated that they are seeking advertising from pornographers. I imagine some lesbians find this magazine funny, but I myself generally consider it rather offensive. I believe that humor is generally lacking in most lesbian publications, and I appreciate this magazine's desire to provide humor, but to me this form of humor is far from funny.

There are 13 publications listed in the directory which I haven't mentioned yet. Three of them, COWRIE, NEW WOMANKIND, and WICCE, are ones I've never seen, and therefore I have no idea if they exist. In the year we've been publishing LC we've only received one copy each from LAVENDER LUMINARY, LESBIAN FEMINIST, and LESBIAN TIDE. I'm not sure if this means these publications have discontinued publishing or not. Also, since we printed the first half of this review last issue various readers have written to us and mentioned that DALLAS DOB NEWSLETTER, BLAZING STAR, and LESBIAN VISIONS have quit publishing. I would strongly urge that you check out these publications to make sure they still exist before you send any money to them. I sincerely hope that none of these publications have disappeared, and would welcome information about them from any reader.

Finally, I am happy that since last issue we've begun getting four more lesbian publications. I haven't seen enough copies of any of these to be able to really review them, but I will mention a few things about each. GAY-LA is the newsletter of the New Orleans chapter of DOB. The lesbians who put it out are in the process of expanding it to include more than just announcements of functions. They want it to be "informative about what's happening inside of DOB and outside it." LESBIAN FEMINIST UNION NEWS comes from Louisville, KY, and the one issue I've seen featured a mixture of announcements, reviews, and some articles. This newsletter seems aimed at LFU members, but I'm sure other lesbians in the area would find it quite interesting. DYKE (New York, NY) calls itself a "separatist quarterly of Lesbian culture and analysis" put out by two "Dyke separatists" for "Dykes only!" It has a professional-looking format, and is incredibly long (the first issue was 40 pages). If you think you'd like a separatist magazine you should check out DYKE. Finally, a publication called DYKE LIFE (Indianapolis, IN) just began. I haven't seen a copy of this one yet, but I'm looking forward to receiving it soon.

Before I end I should mention that the Ambitious Amazons put out the AMBITIOUS AMAZONS REPORT (in addition to putting out Lesbian Connection, of course). The Report is simply a monthly one to two page flyer announcing upcoming LC fundraising events sponsored by the Ambitious Amazons. It's mailed free to any lesbian living in Michigan, as well as to a few lesbians in northern Ohio and Indiana who've requested it.

That concludes my capsule summary and review of these 49 lesbian publications. I feel that the scope and diversity of these publications is outstanding. Sometimes I think we all tend to discount the importance of these publications. Yet in my opinion as long as lesbians are separated by distance, politics, or beliefs, these publications provide one of the few means of communicating ideas and information, and such communication is a necessary first step towards building any sort of lesbian community.

--Margy

Remember--LC needs \$8 from you (more if you can, less if you can't) to continue.

CONTACT DYKES

We recently received the following letter concerning our "Contact Dykes" listing. Sisters - At this time I would appreciate your removing my name from your list of Contact Dykes. I was not happy with the types of calls I was receiving - woman wanting a lover, "rescue" calls, etc. - not calls asking for information about the community, etc. Also I'm moving, possibly when I'm settled I might want to be listed again-thanks for your great publication. Santa Monica, CA

We would like to take this opportunity to explain once again what our Contact Dykes listings are for. Contact Dykes are lesbians who are willing to have their names and address/phone numbers publicized. We hoped that with this listing women would have a way of finding information about the areas of the country that don't have lesbian groups. Many, many lesbians live in places other than big cities, and for them we would like to have contact dykes/lesbian groups in every area of the country. Hopefully lesbians will someday be able to contact each other without having to resort to gay bars.

Thus, Contact Dykes are lesbians who can be contacted for information about their areas. They are not to be called by lesbians who are looking for lovers or for counseling. Also, this is not a list of women who want pen-pals (if you're looking for a pen-pal listing we suggest you check out the Wishing Well--see directory this issue).

One final note, if you are willing to be a Contact Dyke just let us know, indicating exactly how you would like to be listed. It is the responsibility of the Contact Dykes to tell us when they move or their listing changes. And, it's the responsibility of everyone who uses the Contact Dyke listing to let us know how it's working--if you have good experiences or bad with our Contact Dyke list do share it with us. If you have any suggestions on how we can improve this system send them to C.D., c/o Ambitious Amazons, PO Box 811, East Lansing, MI 48823. Next issue we plan on printing the complete list of contact dykes.

Below are the Contact Dykes we've added since last issue. This listing is geographical from the east to the west.

Marjorie and Pauli (207) 967-3032 Kennebunk Beach, Maine
D. Diana Dargie, 9 Jordan Ave, Auburn, ME 04210 (207) 784-3062
Lisa and Pat (516) 581-6571 Long Island, NY
Laura Dickerman 620 Madison Ave., Albany, NY 12208 (formerly Latham, NY--Issue 8)
Lisa Strange (203) 624-1260 New Haven CT
Leah Walker, 363 Mary-Lou St, Clarksburg, WV 26301
Penelope 596-2019 Charlotte, NC
Penny (813) 251-8629 Tampa, FL
Catherine, Penny, Coralie, or Marsha, c/o Feminist Connection, 1208 W. Platt St., Tampa FL 33606 Phone 251-4089
Sue Shankster 1615 58th Terrace So, #4, St. Petersburg, FL 33712 Phone (813) 866-1728
Johnnette 278-5983 Memphis, Tenn.
Mary Williams (216) 231-9208 Cleveland, Ohio
Irene and Barb 761-7502 Ann Arbor, Mich.
Tina Phillips 476-5051 Austin, Texas
Patti Patton 255-0154 Phoenix, Ariz.
Jan, Box 271, Lukachukai, Ariz, 86507 (602) 787-2213
Jan DePoppe, 2622 Birchwood, #6, Bellingham, WA 98225
The following Contact Dykes have moved: Kenda Kitchen, Topeka, KS (Iss. 6); Elaine Dodson, San Diego, CA (Iss. 6); Shan, Seattle, WA (Iss. 6); Tammy Tyler, Santa Monica, CA (Iss. 6); Christina Lundberg, Jackson, MS (Iss. 7). Phone # listed for Becky, Benton Harbor, MI (Iss. 8) is no longer correct.

* * * * *

--Ambitious Amazons

PUBLICATION OF 2 LESBIAN BOOKS PLANNED

Diana Press, a women's press, is planning to publish an anthology of pieces from the LADDER, which was one of the earliest lesbian publications in the U.S. (1956-72). They are also planning to publish the lesbian classic, SEX VARIANT WOMEN IN LITERATURE, by Jeanette Foster. This book (420 pgs.) is the biggest book they have ever done. They hope to raise the money needed for these two projects through the sales of GARLAND, a

1976 women's calendar, spiral bound with original paintings on heavy white paper (\$2.50 plus 15% for postage and handling); and THE DAY BEFORE, a graphic datebook of our matriarchal past with color drawings, graphics, and quotes to help you discover the beauty of female culture throughout the year (\$3.50 plus 15% p & H).

We look forward to the publishing of these two very important parts of our lesbian culture and hope that lesbians will support this project by ordering the calendar and datebook.

WHAT LESBIANS ARE DOING AROUND THE CONTINENT

OLD LADY BLUE JEANS is a lesbian distributing process, created to make our lesbian culture accessible to each other. We will be distributing graphics, music, photography, calendars, magic, fact, wit, etc. If you are a LESBIAN, and have something you would like us to distribute, let us know. Write: Old Lady Blue Jeans, c/o VWU, 200 Main St, Northampton, Ma. 01060. For free brochure, send stamped, self-addressed envelope.

BUILDING THE LESBIAN NATION is the theme of an upcoming Midwest Lesbian Conference.

Lesbians from many midwest states have been meeting since last November to plan this conference, which will be held in Bloomington, Indiana, July 3-5. They hope that this conference, which is for women only, will contribute to the rebirth of the matriarchy. For info write: LFU, PO Box 3764, Louisville, Ky. 40201.

LESBIAN EXPRESSION, the 2nd New York state lesbian conference will be held in Syracuse, March 5-7. The registration fee is \$5.00 and includes housing, Sat. dinner, and Sun. brunch. Write: Lesbian Feminists of Syracuse, c/o S.U. Women's Center, 750 Ostrom Ave, Syracuse, NY. 13210.

NATIONAL LESBIAN/FEMINIST CONFERENCE, evolving from the Women's Caucus of the Gay Academic Union Conference of Thanksgiving '75, is to be held somewhere in the south, during the summer of '76. We are looking for input from women all over the country for the purpose of better communication of our politics and lives. Please write: Julia P. Stanley, Dept. of English, U of SD, Vermillion, SD, 57069.

LESBIAN LEGAL WORKERS, law students, and lawyers: there will be a meeting April 9-11 in Chicago, Ill. A registration/application form can be obtained by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Atty. R. Hanover, 54 W Randolph St, Chicago, Ill. 60601.

MASTERS DEGREE IN LESBIAN CULTURE at Goddard-Cambridge School for Social Change in the Feminist Studies Dept. Write the dept. at 5 Upland Rd, Cambridge, Ma. 02140 or call (617) 492-0700.

BUYING LAND: I am interested in buying land in northwestern California, approximately 5 acres--will build on land with accessible water supply. If you have any info please write: C. Rounds, 9 Camp Thayer Lane, Cazadero, Ca. 95421.

LESBIAN HEALTH CARE PAMPHLET: I am working on an article about lesbian-related research for a lesbian health care pamphlet. I would like to include lesbian related research that women are doing themselves. Any input is appreciated. write: Louis West, 33 Brainerd Rd, Apt 6, Allston, Ma. 02134.

LESBIANS AND MENTAL HEALTH: The Lesbian Research Collective is doing research for a book on lesbians and mental health. We are interested in hearing from lesbians who are or have been in therapy and/or mental hospitals. Send info and ideas to: LRC Box 345, Station A, Vancouver, B.C.

LESBIAN HERSTORY ARCHIVES is now in NY and available for your use. Also, if anyone has any information on the VILLA TRAIT d'UNION, the home in Beauvallon, France of Natalie Barney and Romaine Brooks, please contact us. Write: PO Box 1258, NY, NY. 10001 or call (212) 874-7232 or TR 3-9443 for info about hours and location.

LESBIAN SLIDE AND TAPE PRESENTATION on our lifestyles, oppression, sexuality, etc. I am in need of slides or photos (at least 5x7). I will be willing to pay and return them. Please write: Jackie Willie, c/o Gay Alliance, 225 N University, Normal, Ill. 61761.

LESBIAN SPECTACULAR...a new radio show "by and about lesbians..." can be heard on alternate Tuesdays at 11 P.M. in New York. For more info write: WBAI-FM (99.5), Pacific Radio, 359 E 62nd St, NY. 10021 or call: (212) 826-0880.

LESBIAN MUSICIANS (especially in Mi. and Oh.) I play alto and tenor saxophone, some trumpet and flute. I'd really like to be in contact with other lesbian musicians. Please write: Maryhelen Hibben, 1003 Packard #5, Ann Arbor, Mi. 48104.

LESBIAN BOOK: We are a group of lesbian feminists living in the NY area putting together a book by, for, and about lesbians. To submit material or for more info, please write: Carolyn Pope, PO Box 46, Old Chelsea Station, NY, NY 10011

MANUSCRIPTS are sought for special Lesbian and Black issues of Integrity: Gay Episcopal Forum. Submit to Ellen Barrett, 6527 Morris St, El Cerrito, Ca. 94530.

LESBIAN AND GAY MALE THEATER RESOURCES: We are compiling a national resource list of lesbian and gay theater groups. Send info, questions, or comments to: Lesbian and Gay Male Theater Resources, 59 Christopher St, NY, NY. 10014.

DESERT DYKE is looking for someone going to Tucson, Az who could transport a sewing machine from Kalamazoo, Mi. If so please call Candy, (616) 381-5949, 3810 Madison, Kalamazoo, Mi. I will pay for phone calls, and transportation.

WITCHCRAFT: Would like to hear from separatist dykes interested in witchcraft study to form coven. Write to Gloria de la Rosa, 2116 Tenth St, Apt-B, Berkeley, Ca 94710

LESBIAN MOTHERS AND CHILD CUSTODY CASES: Iris Films, a woman's film producing and distributing company, is presently doing research and fundraising for a film about lesbian mothers and custody cases, to be produced in the summer of '76. Any lesbians who have been involved in child custody cases or would like to make a contribution, please write: Iris Films, PO Box 26463, LA, Ca. 90026.

LESBIANS IN HELI ARC WEILDING in the US doing MIG or TIG weilding. I'd love to write to other women in this field, which is one of my passions. Write: Lisa Baer, 142 Willow St, Central Islip, NY. 11722 (516) 581-6571.

WOMEN who played all that wonderful music at the Great Southeast Lesbian Conference, where are you? If you are near Atlanta--or plan on passing thru, please holler--or write: Princess Charming Prod., c/o ALFA, Box 5502, Atlanta, Ca. 30307

WOMEN AND LAND WORKSHOP II to be held sometime in April, is a contact session designed to put you in touch with other women who share your vision of relating to land, whether it be a lesbian commune or a campsite for all women. Write: Women and Land Workshop II, c/o Bishop's Coffeehouse, 1437 Harrison, Oakland, CA 94612.

SEPARATIST DYKES: Would like to hear from those of you interested in joining a writer's workshop to create an East Bay Dyke Newsletter and resource guide. Write: Gloria de la Rosa, 2116 Tenth St, Apt-B, Berkeley, CA. 94710.

WOMAN KARATE INSTRUCTOR looking for other women instructors to form Karate Promotional (and other activities) organization. Would be an alternative to traditional men's organizations. Please write: Marianna, 1030 Greenwood Ave. NE, Atlanta, Ga. 30306

LAND TRUST: I wrote an article about a land trust in Oregon (in a past issue of LC) and would like to hear from separatist dykes interested in land trusts to provide land for those of us who are unable to buy land ourselves. Write: Gloria de la Rosa 2116 Tenth St., Apt-B, Berkeley, Ca. 94710.

GAY TEACHERS OF ENGLISH: papers are sought for a panel "Towards a Healthy Gay Presence in Textbooks and Classrooms" for the next national council of teachers of English (NCTE), scheduled for Nov 25-27 in Chicago. Deadline for program is March 25. For more information write: Louie Crew, Dept of English, Fort Valley State College, Fort Valley, Ga. 31030.

GAY PRINTING COLLECTIVE needs others to learn and share teaching printing--doing non-commercial movement work. experimental/graphic environment--experience unnecessary--working/living collectively. Come! Unity Press, 13 E 17 St, NY, NY. 10003 (212) 675-3043

WOMEN'S ART CENTER in San Francisco is putting together an environmental piece representative of all women throughout the country; women of all ages and outlooks are invited to participate. Women who have never exhibited in a gallery are especially encouraged to enter. For more info write: Women's Art Center, 400 Brannan at Third, SF, CA. 94107

GAY NURSES ALLIANCE has just formed a southern California caucus. Please write: GNA, Box 17593, San Diego, CA. 92117.

WORLD PLAN OF ACTION, the document that came out of the International Women's Year Conference in Mexico City, has been published in condensed form by the Women's Equity Action League for free distribution. For info write: WEAL Educational and Legal Defense Fund,

795 National Press Building, Washington, D.C. 20045.

OUT FRONT, a new public affairs program on WPVI-TV Philadelphia, will probe anti-homosexual bias. For more info write: Gay Media Project, Box 2186, Philadelphia, Pa. 19103.

FESTIVAL OF WOMEN'S FILMS, 2nd International, will be held in NY City from Sept 13-26. For more info write: Festival of Women's Films, 36 W 62nd St, NY, NY. 10023 or call (212) 247-1260.

FEMINIST BOOK SEARCH: We locate rare, out of print, and hard to find books by women. We search all requests. Write: Feminist Book Search, 2 Dodge St, Cambridge, Ma. 02139

WOMEN FOR SOBRIETY is a group of women, who has as its goal to help women alcoholics and problem drinkers. We run support groups and reach out to other women with a newsletter, \$5/year. For info/subscription write: Women for Sobriety, Inc., 344 Franklin St, Quakertown, Pa. 18951.

GAY BICENTENNIAL CONFERENCE: "Gay in San Antonio-A Sense of Belonging?" is an official part of the bicentennial celebration to include gay persons among its participants. The conference is scheduled for April 30-May1. For info write: Bettie Naylor-Kathy Deitsch, Box 2036, Universal City, Tx. 78148 or call (512) 655-3724.

NEW GAY PUBLICATION: I would like to hear from all gay people, female and male who are interested in starting a new publication in hopes that we can work together as one. Please write: Slim Adams, 12012 Roselawn, Detroit, Mi. 48204, or call (313) 935-4027.

7TH WOMEN AND LAW CONFERENCE to be held at Temple University March 12-14. Contact: Susan Cucokow, Women's Law Caucus, Temple U, School of Law, 1719 N Broad, Phila, Pa. 19122 or call (215) 787-8942.

JOINT DIGNITY: An organization of gay and concerned Catholics. For more info write: Dignity, 755 Boylston St, Rm 514, Boston, Ma. 02115.

ADDRESS WANTED: Sacramento sisters, I am doing an article about Lynette "Squeaky" Fromme and I desperately need the address of John Virga, the court-appointed attorney who defended her. Please write: Desi Geshen, 201 Mancil Rd, Media, Pa. 19063. Thank you very much.

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ADS

When responding to any of our ads or announcements please remember to mention Lesbian Connection.

A LESBIAN PORTRAIT by Linda Shear, is a 45 min. tape of LESBIAN music. Linda presents a musical portrait of LESBIAN WOMANHOOD through her songs and the songs of Michelle Brody. \$5/cassette tape, \$4.75/5 or more - \$7/reel to reel, \$6.75/5 or more. TO BE SOLD TO AND SHARED BY WOMEN ONLY! Songs include "Family of Woman" and "Lesbian Womb-moon:", a chant. Please include something for postage. Write: Old Lady Blue Jeans, c/o VWU, 200 Main St, Northampton, Ma. 01060.

LESBIAN UMBRELLA: In response to nationwide harassment of lesbians by "law enforcement" agencies and the courts, the Lesbian Umbrella has reprinted "The FBI is in Town...", and "Your Rights and the Grand Jury" to be distributed free to lesbians. To get these pamphlets in single or multiple copies, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: Lesbian Umbrella, 910 1/2 E Pike, Seattle, Wa. 98122.

CONTEMPLATION: An anthology of writings and graphics by LESBIANS in the Cincinnati-Dayton Ohio area. Send \$1.50 plus 13¢ postage per copy. Write: Bloodroot c/o LABYRIS, PO BOX 6302, Cincinnati, Ohio 45206. Amazon picture enclosed for additional 50¢.

SISTER HEATHENSPINSTER'S ALMANAC AND LUNATION CALENDAR, created by Michelle Brody, Graphics, astrological data, herstory, footnotes. Begins with the vernal equinox, March 20, 1976 and ends March 19, 1977. \$2/almanac-calendar, \$1.80/5 or more. Write: Old Lady Blue Jeans, c/o VWU, 200 Main St, Northampton, Ma. 01060.

LESBIAN FILMS: The Women's Film Coop distributes these lesbian films: COMING OUT, DYKETACTIONS, SISTERS!, MENSES, and "X", as well as 20 other films and slide shows about women and women's issues. Write for full list of films and prices. LESBIAN FILMMAKERS: We are looking for new 16mm lesbian films to distribute, will consider videotapes. Write for info: The Women's Film Coop, 200 Main St, Northampton, Ma. 01060 or call (413) 586-2011.

SUPPORT SUSAN SAXE! T-shirts and posters available. For info write Susan Saxe Defense Fund, c/o NLG, 1427 Walnut St, Philadelphia, Pa. 19102. Donations for her defense gratefully accepted!

STATIONERY: design has circle of women's power symbols as an emblem and says "May the circle be unbroken..." Mention Lesbian Connection. Send \$1.50/package (15 printed sheets, 30 plain sheets, 15 envelopes) to: "DESIGN", 818 Church #4, Ann Arbor, Mi. 48104. Soon to come...Lesbian Bicentennial poster.

AMAZON POETRY - an anthology of LESBIAN poetry, and other lesbian poetry books available from: Out & About Books, 44 Seventh Ave, Brooklyn, NY. 11217, \$1.50 each plus 25¢ handling.

ASK NO MAN PARDON: The Philosophical Significance of Being Lesbian by lesbian poet Elsa Gidlow. This is not a poetry book, but a philosophical discussion of lesbianism--includes photographs. Send \$1.10 plus 25¢ for postage to Druid Height Books, 685 Camino del Canyon, Mid Valley, Ca. 94941 (10 or more copies, 80¢ plus postage).

LESBIANS AND LAW: The People's College of Law is a 4-year law school oriented to those usually excluded from legal education. Half of the students at PCL are women. We welcome lesbian and Third World women. Graduates receive a JD degree and qualify for the California Bar Exam. Entrance requirements are: Commitment to social change and two years of college or an equivalency test. Tuition is low. For more information and application write: Women's Caucus, People's College of Law, 2228 W 7th, LA, Ca. 90057 or call (213) 388-8171.

ALBATROSS: Lesbian feminist Satire Magazine--news, views, reviews, poetry, fiction, humor, comix. Subscription per year, \$7, Sample copies are available at the incredibly high price of \$1.50. Send name and address (neatness doesn't count but it certainly helps a lot) to Albatross, 111 S Harrison, E Orange, NJ. 07012, Box 112.

LESBIANS AND OTHER WOMEN a calendar by Lily Pond, containing many photos and information on sun changing and moon signs with time change. Send \$3.25, c/o Femail Postal Service, 1730 Hearst Ave, Berkeley, Ca. 94703.

OLIVIA RECORDS has several albums by lesbians available for \$6.00 (Last issue we goofed and said \$5.50--they'd like it if women who only sent \$5.50 would send the extra 50¢ if possible). Also 45¢ and a songbook. For complete price list write Olivia Records Dept. 2, Box 70237, Los Angeles, Ca. 90070.

ASSAULTS AND RITUALS: a book of short stories by a lesbian artist. Send \$2.75 to Mother Lode, PO Box 40213, San Francisco, Ca. 94140.

GREAT HERA INCUNABULA: Lesbian graphics to color and enjoy. A unique presentation of our art and past and future. Includes artist's notes with each graphic. #1 Ching Hexagram 8, #2 Dark Rose, #3 Sister Constancia Kachina. All graphics large and printed on heavy paper. \$1/each graphic, 90¢/10 or more. Write: Old Lady Blue Jeans, c/o WU, 200 Main St, Northampton, Ma. 01060.

NEW GAY RESORT: We are lesbians opening up a new gay resort near Kalamazoo, Mi. We have 109 acres with a club house, a place for horses, 2 lakes, a lot of small buildings, and a lot of room. Let us know your talents and ideas. Memberships will be \$100/year. Send comments or questions to Four Seasons Resort, 2616 S State Rd. Ionia, Mi.

CYCLAR, a women's community calendar, with graphics and almost daily historical info about women. \$4 plus 50¢ for shipping Write: Travelinglight, PO Box 6063, Austin, Texas 78762. We also have posters and t-shirts available.

AMAZON REALITY (a women's collective) is distributing to women only WHAT LESBIANS DO a collection of drawings and writings by lesbians about their sexuality--\$4.50. Plus COME OUT COMIX and GRAND JURY COMIX--75¢ each. Include 25¢ postage--Amazon Reality, Box 95, Eugene, Or. 97401.

MOTHER JONES PRESS, an all women's print collective, would very much like to print for lesbians. We do low cost, quality offset printing as well as layout, etc. Call or write: Mother Jones Press, 19 Hawley St, Northampton, Ma. 01060 (413) 584-0314.

MOTHER'S EMERGENCY STRESS SERVICE is a group of mothers trying to meet the special needs of mothers with a twenty-four hour crisis line and referral service. Our book, A FEMINIST ANALYSIS OF CHILD ABUSE, sells for \$2. Proceeds go to the crisis center. Write MESS, 2220 J st, Sacramento, Ca. 95816 or call (916) 446-7663.

Dear ADVERTISERS and READERS: For lack of space, we were forced to cut out many ads. Our apologies. We will try to make up for it next issue.

LETTERS

Dear Readers: We're sorry that we ran out of space for letters, but we intend to make it up to you next issue. There have been alot of lesbians writing to LC in the last few months. Your letters are a great source of support to us and provide an interesting mixture of ideas and opinions. We'd like to share them with you--so keep writing.

Dear Women: I just saw a copy of Lesbian Connection for the first time and was incredibly impressed! What you're doing is so overdue--and gives me such a feeling of solidarity with my sisters around the country. I'll be travelling around the country next summer and look forward to meeting Contact Dykes everywhere. Somerville, MA

Dear sisters: I'm hoping to find time to write some articles about my experiences as a lesbian in Brazil, as I see a real lack in LC of international news, especially of non-european countries. I lived there for 12 years. Keep struggling, Austin, TX

Dear Sisters: I want to apologize for not having informed you sooner that I have moved. There is no excuse except inconsiderateness. Lesbian Connection provides an important communications link between lesbians of all different persuasions. Again my apologies--enclosed is a donation towards the continuance of Lesbian Connection. Northampton, MA

Dear Ambitious Amazons: As a member of the committee of Lesbian Feminist Liberation that is negotiating with MS. magazine, I really appreciated your printing our letter in full [Iss. 7]. Although my feelings about MS. are mixed to say the least I would certainly like more articles about Lesbians and especially by Lesbians. We've gotten a few letters already as a result of your printing, letters with some suggestions and information, so again thanks. In Sisterhood, New York, NY

Dear Amazons: Would like to start getting your publication again now that I've found a new space. It's such a wonderful thing to read what other women are doing across the country. Makes one feel so much closer to her sisters, who are everywhere.

In Sisterhood, Greely, CO

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LESBIAN CONNECTION INFORMATION

A Nationwide Forum of Lesbian New & Ideas By, For, & About Lesbians FREE

EXTRA COSTS FOR SPECIAL REQUESTS:

Outside of U.S.: \$2.00

Libraries/Institutions: \$13.00

In Envelope: \$2.50--3rd class \$4.00--1st class

Send Checks (made payable to Ambitious Amazons) to PO Box 811, East Lansing, Mich. 48823.

NOTES: Back issues of LC are not available at this time. Sorry!

Please no poetry or fiction, or requests for penpals. Be sure to tell us if you move--LC will not be forwarded by the post office. Include your old address!

If you write to us and request information from other readers, (e.g., you want to start a lesbian group or you want to learn something by being an apprentice), PLEASE GIVE US YOUR WRITTEN PERMISSION TO PRINT YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS IN LC.

We cannot handle the extra mail, so all replies must be written directly to you. (This does not include pen-pals).

COPY DEADLINE FOR ISSUE 2 IS MARCH 15 (articles), MARCH 25 (announcements, ads, etc.) Send in your articles, letters, thoughts, reactions, now. Limit on articles--2 pages single spaced. Be sure to include title and how you want it signed.

MANY THANKS TO OUR PRODUCTION STAFF: Fran, Lynn, Kristi, Bunny, Cindy, Margaret, Claire, Cindy K., Jo Jo, Pam, Kris A., Shery, Marti, Joan, Erin, Martha, Nancy, Arlene, Terry, Judy, Helen.

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Gil
Apropos of these articles, I am writing an article which takes its name from something Jean Galley labeled "The Myth of Sisyphus"; for the Gay Christian — relates to why MCC is not able to reach women in proportion to the number present in the general population. While you may not agree, I think it's worth while to look at 4 ideas.

1. Male hierarchy in church — weakness of females in positions of power
2. Male ideation in the service (sexist language)
3. Large proportion of males in congregation
4. Women who are reached being a. bisexual, b. lesbian mothers, c. not fully out, d. isolated by geography or race or age from greater gay community.

